

Message Text

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ACTION EA-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NEA-07 MCT-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3012

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMCONSUL MEDAN

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUALA LUMPUR 2276

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, LY, ID, MY

SUBJ: MALAYSIAN POLITICAIN DENIES CONNECTION WITH INDONESIAN
MUSLIM EXTREMISTS

REF: A) KUALA LUMPUR 1585 (NOTAL) DTG 248540Z FEB 78,

B) KUALA LUMPUR 0477 DTG 190747Z JAN 78

1. SUMMARY/INTRODUCTION. DURING A RECENT LUNCHEON WITH AN EMBOFF, SNAUSI JUNED, A YOUNG MALAYSIAN POLITICIAN ASSOCIATED WITH THE DOMINANT GOVERNMENT PARTY, UMNO, DREW ATTENTION TO A AFP NEWS ITEM CARRIED IN LOCAL PRESS JAN 19, IN WHICH HIS NAME HAD BEEN MENTIONED IN THE COURSE OF A TRIAL OF A MUSLIM EXTEMIST IN MEDAN, INDONESIA. THE AFP REPORT, WHICH PREVIOUSLY HAD ESCAPED OUR ATTENTION, CITED ALLEGATIONS BY WITNESSES AT THE TRIAL TO THE EFFECT THAT SANUSI HAD ACTED AS AN INTERMEDIARY BETWEEN THE
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CLANDESTINE EXTREMEIST MUSLIM ORGANIZATION DARUL ISLAM AND THE LIBYAN EMBASSY IN AN EFFORT BY THE DI TO OBTAIN ARMS TO "FIGHT COMMUNISTS" IN INDONESIA. RECALLING THAT TWO AMERICANS EMPLOYED AT AN LNG PROJECT IN SUMARTRA HAD BEEN KILLED IN A TERRORIST INCIDENT LAST YEAR, SANUSI SAID THAT THESE ALLEGATIONS WERE FALSE AND HE WANTED IT MADE CLEAR TO US (THE USG) THAT HE IN NO WAY SUPPORTS SUCH EXTREMIST GROUPS OR THEIR

ACTIVITIES. END SUMMARY/INTRODUCTION.

2. SANUSI, WHO IS OF ACHEHNESE EXTRACTION AND THE GRANDSON OF, AS HE PUT IT, "THE MUFTI OF ACHEH," TOLD THE EMBOFF THAT A DARUL ISLAM REPRESENTATIVE HAD CONTACTED HIM AND SOUGHT HIS HELP IN OBTAINING AID FOR THEIR CAUSE FROM LIBYA, BUT THAT HE (SANUSI) HAD REBUFFED THIS APPROACH. THE ATTEMPT TO IMPLICATE HIM IS AN EFFORT TO SPREAD THE BLAME, HE CONTENDED. HE SAID THAT HE HAS BRIEFED MALAYSIAN POLICE SPECIAL BRANCH IN DETAIL ON THIS CONTACT, AND UNDERSTANDS THAT MALAYSIAN SB HAS IN TURN BEEN IN TOUCH WITH THE INDONESIANS, SPECIFICALLY PRESIDENTIAL ADVISOR LT. GEN. ALI MURTOPO, ON THIS.

3. COMMENT: SANUSI JUNED, 35, IS A MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT FROM KEDAH STATE, PRESIDENT OF THE MALAYSIAN ASSOCIATION OF YOUTH CLJBS, AND UNTIL RECENTLY , HEAD OF THE CHARTERED BANK'S RURAL CREDIT PROGRAM IN MALAYSIA. HE IS BRIGHT, ARTICULATE, AND IN GENERAL ONE OF THE MORE IMPRESSIVE YOUNG MALAY POLITICIANS WE HAVE CONTACT WITH. HE APPEARED SINCERELY CONCERNED AND UPSET ABOUT THESE ALLEGATIONS, AND ANXIOUS TO SET THE RECORD STRAIGHT.

4. ALTHOUGH WE HAVE NOT FOLLOWED THIS MATTER IN DETAIL, WE HAVE NOTED SOME RECENT PRESS COVERAGE LOCALLY OF THE DEATH SENTENCE HANDED DOWN IN THE TRIAL OF TIMSAR ZUBIL ALIAS SUDIRMAN AND HIS SUBSEQUENT APPEAL FOR CLEMENCY. WE WOULD APPRECIATE ANY ADDITIONAL DETAILS EMBASSY JAKARTA OR AMCONSUL MEDAN CAN PROVIDE ON CONFIDENTIAL

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ANY ALLEGED MALAYSIAN CUM LIBYAN CONNECTIONS WITH INDONESIAN MUSLIM EXTREMISTS SINCE, AS REFTELS NOTE, GOM IS CONCERNED ABOUT FOREIGN-SUPPORTED FANATICAL ISLAMIC MOVEMENTS HERE.

5. FYI, FULL TEXT OF AFP ITEM, WHICH APPEARED IN ENGLISH-LANGUAGE DAILY THE STAR JANUARY 18, 1978, IS AS FOLLOWS:
BEGIN TEXT:"INDON GROUP ASKED FOR ARMS TO FIGHT REDS"--JAKARTA, WED.""THE EXTREMIST MUSLIM CLANDESTINE ORGANIZATION DARUL ISLAM HAD ASKED LIBYA TO PROVIDE 300,000 PIECES OF LIGHT AND HEAVY ARMMENTS "TO FIGHT THE COMMUNISTS WHO STILL EXIST IN INDONESIA," IT WAS REPORTED HERE TODAY.

THE REVELATION WAS MADE BY WITNESSES IN THE TRIAL OF A DARUL ISLAM LEADER WHOSE INITIALS WERE GIVEN AS T.Z. IN A MEDAN COURT OF JUSTICE.

WITNESSES SAID A SPECIAL LETTER SIGNED BY DAUD BEUREUH, LEADER OF THE DEFUNCT DARUL ISLAM WAS SENT THROUGH COURIERS TO THE LIBYAN REPRESENTATIVE OFFICE IN KUALA LUMPUR IN 1975.

NO RESPONSE WAS RECEIVED FROM THE LIBYAN GOVERNMENT "BECAUSE NOTHING HAS STARTED TO HAPPEN IN INDONESIA," SAID WITNESS

RIVAI AHMAD.

THE WITNESS QUOTED SANUSI JUNED, A GRANDSON OF DAUD BEURUEH WHO WORKED FOR THE CHARTERED BANK IN KUALA LUMPUR, THAT THE ARMS REQUEST COULD NOT BE FULFILLED UNTIL THERE WAS "REAL UPHEAVAL" IN THIS COUNTRY.

JUNED ALSO WAS QUOTED AS SAYING THAT EACH PROVINCE IN INDONESIA SHOULD SEND FIVE "YOUNG MEN" FOR MILITARY TRAINING IN LIBYA.

THE 300,000 PEICES OF ARMS WERE ESTIMATED TO BE WORTH US\$1,000 MILLION.--AFP." END TEXT.

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